

organ transplant rejection, the creation of a new class of drugs that is used to combat HIV/AIDS where other medications have failed, and the production of the most widely used treatment for Hepatitis C, one of the foremost threats to public health today. As an industry leader in the field of diagnostics, Roche's products help patients manage their diabetes, give physicians and hospitals the ability to identify illnesses more quickly and more accurately, and tailor treatments in a way that best suit an individual's personal medical condition. These life-saving and life-enhancing products make a tremendous difference for hundreds of thousands of people around the world each and every day, and are part of why Americans enjoy the highest quality healthcare.

As Roche employees in New Jersey, and around the world, reflect on all these accomplishments on this 100th Anniversary, I believe they can take great pride in the successes they have enjoyed as a result of their dedication and industriousness. I am confident that the century ahead holds great things in store for the Roche community.

JARAMOGI ABEBE AGYEMAN

**HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2005*

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, in tribute to Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman, an induction ceremony into the Ring of Ancestors will take place on Sunday, June 12, 2005 at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. It is with great respect that this tribute is offered as a memorial for the life of Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman, the founder and First Holy Patriarch of the Shrines of the Black Madonna of the Pan African Orthodox Christian Church.

Whereas, Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman was born Albert B. Cleage, Jr. in Indianapolis, Indiana on June 13, 1911. He graduated from Wayne State University, where he studied sociology, and the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology. He was a social caseworker with the Detroit Department of Public Welfare before entering the seminary. Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman served pastorates at Lexington, KY, San Francisco, CA, and Springfield, MA before founding what became known as Central United Church of Christ in 1953.

Whereas, during the civil-rights and "black power" movements of the 1960s the then Reverend Cleage was Detroit's most eloquent and uncompromising advocate and activist for African American freedom, rights, and dignity. He led campaigns for quality education and black economic empowerment and spearheaded opposition to job discrimination, police brutality and the forced removal of blacks from the central city. Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman later co-founded the Black Slate, a not-for-profit public relations and advertising group that selects and supports candidates for public office, which helped to elect Coleman A. Young as Detroit's first African American mayor.

Whereas, on Easter Sunday in 1967, he launched the Black Christian Nationalist Movement (BCN) and unveiled a 19-foot chancel mural of a Black Madonna and child by Detroit

artist Glanton Dowdell. In 1970, Central formally became the Shrine of the Black Madonna and the Reverend Cleage was rechristened Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman. At this point he focused his energy inward, toward building institutions and developing a theology and program that would enable black people to become independent and self-determining.

Whereas, Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman wrote two books, "The Black Messiah" (1968) and "Black Christian Nationalism: New Directions for the Black Church" (1972). In 1978, he founded the PAOCC as a new black denomination, with branches in Atlanta, GA, Houston, TX, and Calhoun Falls, SC where the church established Beulah Land, which is believed to be the largest black owned farm in the U.S. Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman passed away at Beulah Land on February 20, 2000.

In special tribute, this document is dedicated in memory of the life of Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MISS HANNAH PILEGGI AND MR. WARREN SAKY OF FOX CHAPEL HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2005*

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Miss Hannah Pileggi and Mr. Warren Sakey of Fox Chapel High School on being named the winners of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America Essay Contest. Ms. Pileggi and Mr. Sakey will represent Pennsylvania at the NCSDA's 2005 Washington Workshops Congressional Seminar in Washington, D.C.

The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America is an organization dedicated to furthering an appreciation of our national heritage through historic preservation, patriotic service and educational projects. One of these projects is the annual essay contest that challenges high school students to critically evaluate a certain period of history or topic of international significance. This year's topic presented students with an opportunity to select the American President, serving between 1850 and 1950 that they most admired.

Hannah Pileggi's winning essay focused on President Harry S. Truman, pointing out the extremely difficult decision he faced in deciding whether to drop the atomic bomb in the Pacific Theatre of Operations. Warren Sakey decided to focus on Woodrow Wilson and his tireless efforts focused at achieving peace in the world through his "Fourteen Points."

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating both Hannah Pileggi and Warren Sakey. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute the achievements of such fine young leaders.

HONORING "MR. DIABETES,"  
ANDREW MANDELL

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2005*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the accomplishments of a man who has brought a new sense of awareness to the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diabetes in America. On June 16, Andrew Mandell, Executive Director of the Defeat Diabetes Foundation, and known throughout the world as "Mr. Diabetes," will be in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, as part of his "Wake Up and Walk Tour"—a 10,000+ mile journey along the perimeter of the United States.

A disease afflicting 22 million Americans, diabetes ranks among our nation's leading causes of death, and is the leading cause of adult blindness, kidney disease, heart attack, stroke, and non-traumatic amputations. Knowing no boundaries, it impacts the lives of people of all ages and from all walks of life.

One such person is Andy Mandell. An avid runner, triathlete, and martial artist, Andy witnessed his life change in 1985, when he was first diagnosed as a diabetic. Although he continued to live his life as he had, the disease grew stronger, causing him to grow weaker, to the point where he was bedridden for 20 hours a day for two years. It was then that Andy made a conscious choice and developed his own recovery program of proper diet, exercise, and monitoring. Andy also decided to share his experiences with the world, and in 1990, he founded with his brother Jerry, the Defeat Diabetes Foundation, an organization whose purpose is to educate and inform the public about diabetes and the dangers it poses through articles, lectures, and personal appearances.

On December 1, 2000, Andy began the "Wake Up and Walk Tour" in Madeira Beach, Florida. Having already traveled through the South and the Pacific Northwest, he will have logged over 6500 miles by the time he reaches Flint. Upon returning to Florida, his plans are simple: to start the walk over.

Mr. Speaker, Andrew Mandell is a shining example of triumph in the face of adversity. He is a survivor rather than a victim of his disease, living with it rather than suffering from it. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding his strength as well as his commitment to improving the quality of life for us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLYWOMAN LORETTA WEINBERG, NAMED FIRST RUNNER-UP FOR THE 2005 GOOD HOUSEKEEPING AWARD FOR WOMEN AND GOVERNMENT

**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2005*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pleasure to honor my dear friend of more than 25 years, New Jersey Assemblywoman Loretta Weinberg, who has been named first runner-up for the prestigious 2005 Good Housekeeping Award for Women

and Government. The award will be presented tomorrow, June 15, 2005, at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. sponsored by the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP). Each year, Good Housekeeping magazine and the CAWP honor women, in government—elected or appointed officials, career civil servants, or members of the military—for their achievements in government that have improved people's lives. Assemblywoman Weinberg was selected from over 200 extraordinary women as first runner-up for this award because of her exemplary record of public service.

As one of only 13 women in the 80-member New Jersey General Assembly, Assemblywoman Weinberg serves as the Majority Conference Leader and represents New Jersey's Legislative District 37, which includes a number of towns we both have the privilege to represent, such as Englewood, Hackensack, and Teaneck. She has spent 13 years advocating on behalf of New Jersey's women and families and has spearheaded the passage of several pieces of landmark legislation. Two of her efforts have included passing a law, which mandates that new mothers must be allowed at least a 48-hour stay in the hospital after giving birth, as well as her law that established the first child-proof handgun law in the nation. Her leadership roles also include being the Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee and Vice-Chair of the Family, Women and Children's Services Committee. Aside from her professional work, Loretta is above all devoted to her children, grandchildren, her entire family, and her many, many friends.

Founded in 1971, the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) is a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University, The State University of New Jersey. The CAWP mission is to promote greater knowledge and understanding about women's participation in politics and government and to enhance women's influence and leadership in public life. This is the eighth year the CAWP has participated along with the Ford Foundation in administering the Good Housekeeping Award for Women and Government.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding contributions that New Jersey Assemblywoman Loretta Weinberg has made, that make the lives of all New Jerseyans so much better. I would like to acknowledge Loretta's lifetime of good works and dedication. I am proud to call her my friend.

CONGRATULATIONS, GEORGE  
SACCO

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate George Sacco on receiving the "Silent Defender" award from the International Code Council Foundation.

George, who is currently the fire marshal for O'Hara Township, was selected among more than 30 applicants from around the world. Mr. Sacco has held several different job titles during his incredible 76 years of dedicated service including fire chief and president of the Allegheny County Fire Chiefs Association. He has twice been named the Allegheny

County Fireman of the Year and continues to mentor aspiring firefighters, teaching courses ranging from hydraulics and arson investigation to home fire safety. Currently, he is the oldest fire instructor in age and service in the entire state of Pennsylvania.

The "Silent Defender" award is given to a person or organization that exemplifies the selflessness, dignity and credibility of the profession and dedication to safety. According to his peers, George personifies all of those qualities and continues to instill them in future generations of firefighters. Mr. Sacco received the award May 16th during the Building Safety Week at the annual International Code Council Foundation Dinner in Washington, D.C.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring George Sacco. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute citizens such as George who truly embody the spirit of public service.

#### INTRODUCING THE WORKING FAMILIES GAS TAX CREDIT ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation which will go a long way to reducing the burden placed on American consumers due to escalating gas costs.

My bill, the Working Families Gas Tax Credit Act, provides a \$250 tax credit to individuals who make \$25,000 or less, and \$500 for joint filers who make \$50,000 or less, if the cost of a gallon of gasoline over a taxable year has increased from the previous year by more than twice the rate of inflation.

The credit will increase annually at an amount equal to the rate of inflation. The cost for a gallon of gasoline is based on the U.S. Regular All Formulations Retail Gasoline Prices, prepared by the Energy Information Administration of the Department of Energy.

Except for housing costs, low- and middle-income households in the United States spend more of their earnings on transportation than anything else. This minimal credit would go a long way to helping low- and middle-income families cope with escalating gas costs and limited resources.

I ask for my colleagues' support, and I urge the House Leadership to bring this bill to the floor swiftly for its consideration.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE SER- VITUDE AND EMANCIPATION AR- CHIVAL RESEARCH CLEARING- HOUSE (SEARCH) ACT OF 2005

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2005

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Servitude and Emancipation Archival Research ClearingHouse (SEARCH) Act of 2005, companion legislation to a bill soon to be reintroduced by Senator LANDRIEU

of Louisiana. The SEARCH Act would authorize the creation of a national database of servitude and emancipation records within the National Archives.

Mr. Speaker, for most Americans, researching their genealogical history involves searching through municipal birth, death, and marriage records—most of which have been properly archived as public historical documents. However, African Americans in the United States face a unique challenge when conducting genealogical research.

Due to slavery and discrimination, and their residues, African-Americans were denied many of the benefits of citizenship that produce traceable documentation such as voter registration, property ownership, business ownership, and school attendance. As a result, instead of looking up wills, land deeds, birth and death certificates, and other traditional genealogical research documents, African Americans must often try to identify the name of former slave owners, hoping that the owners kept records of pertinent information, such as births and deaths. Unfortunately, current records of emancipation and slavery are frequently inaccessible, poorly catalogued, and inadequately preserved from decay.

Although some states and localities have undertaken efforts to collect these documents with varying degrees of success, there is no national effort to preserve these important pieces of public and personal history or to make them readily and easily accessible to all Americans. While entities such as Howard University and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture Library have extensive African American archives, the SEARCH Act would create a centralized database of these historic records. This database would be administered by the Archivist of the United States as part of the National Archives.

The SEARCH Act would also authorize \$5 million for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to establish the national database, as well as \$5 million in grants for states and academic institutions to preserve local records of servitude and emancipation.

On behalf of the many African Americans throughout the United States, and in recognition of the observance of June 19th as African American Emancipation Day or Juneteenth, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the SEARCH Act. I believe that this legislation will be a vital step in resurrecting the rich history of African Americans and the vital role that they played in building America. This legislation is not only a means by which African Americans can trace their lineage, but also as a means by which our nation can preserve historically comprehensive and accurate information for generations yet unborn.

Author Maya Angelou once said that "No man can know where he is going unless he knows exactly where he has been and exactly how he arrived at his present place." Let there be no mistake Mr. Speaker, the SEARCH Act will provide African Americans an opportunity to forge a crucial nexus between the past and the present. Just as important, it will give our nation an opportunity to continue to correct the unintended consequences of the past.

Join me in ending the horrible legacies of slavery and discrimination by giving African Americans a real chance to understand who they are and from whence they came.